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1. KISHI PLANS TO SEND SPECIAL ECONOMIC
ENVOY TO PEIPING

Comment on:



Japanese Prime Minister Kishi's decision to send an economic envoy to Peiping this fall apparently is part of a plan to raise trade discussions with Communist China above the private

level. The envoy's mission reportedly will be to exchange views with Peiping government leaders on fundamentals in Sino-Japanese economic relations. He is to refrain, however, from being drawn into any political discussions. The governmental Economic Planning Board, headed by Ichiro Kono, is assembling data for the talks.

A leading Japanese newspaper reports that Kishi's most likely choice for the mission is Tokutaro Kitamura, a leader of the conservative Liberal Democratic party and former finance minister, who is expected to arrive in Peiping in time to attend the Chinese Communist National Festival on 1 October.

The Kishi government is responding gradually to continued pressure from Japanese political and economic circles, which themselves are being stirred up by adroit propaganda from Peiping. There are indications that Tokyo is prepared to relax fingerprint requirements for the admission of a permanent Chinese trade mission to Japan.
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